

Friday Morning, August 26, 1864.

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (Sundays excepted) in the largest and most widely circulated journal in Her Majesty's Possessions on the Pacific.

Resident Subscribers may have the same left at their residence from 9 o'clock to 5 o'clock, by turning their address at the Office of Publication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST, published every Tuesday, will be mailed or left at the residence of Subscribers, ready for mailing, at 25 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY having received a large addition to their stock of new and beautiful Jobbing type, will execute orders to any extent with neatness and despatch, at a slight advance on San Francisco prices.

COUNCIL VAGARIES.

The political crisis has culminated in the assertion, on the part of both Houses, of the rights of the Legislature—the four days' notice of assembling Parliament having been pronounced by the two branches as unconstitutional. We are glad to see that the decision arrived at by the one chamber has been met with the views of the other; for it proves to His Excellency that the objection was no mere quibble on the part of any of the members of Assembly or on our own. The Upper and Lower Houses have correctly viewed the subject as one of grave importance, and we are sure Governor Kennedy has no desire to undertake it. The respective addresses which will be presented to His Excellency to-day, while showing the objections of the members of the Legislature to perform legislative duties under the recent Executive summons, are dictated in a tone and clothed in a language to which no English Governor could take exception; and we have too high an idea of His Excellency's honesty of purpose to think that the late *controversy* will give him the slightest annoyance. His course is now clear and unmistakable, and fortunately beyond the sphere of ill-considered advice. Fourteen days is the only notice that can be recognized in this colony; it is the only one, as has been already shown, that is recognized in England; and it is the only notice that is deemed legal in Canada.

The question is now settled, and we do not wish to recur to it at any length; but we cannot allow the occasion to slip away without alluding to the preposterous ideas expressed yesterday by some of the members of the Upper House. It was stated by more than one gentleman, that the Governor's Commission gave him ample power to call the House together, irrespective of constitutional precedent. Mr. Donald Fraser answered the absurdity well enough by observing that the Governor could not exercise a power which was not possessed by the Queen herself. There was a shallooness, however, in bringing such an argument forward that speaks badly for the intellectual calibre of the Council. His Excellency is empowered to call the House together when he likes, provided sufficient notice be given, and some of our Council legislators at once infer from that that the notice is entirely optional with the Governor. Nobody ever doubted His Excellency's power to call the House when he liked,—the objection taken in the recent difficulty was the want of "sufficient notice." If we require this term to be defined it is evident we must go to precedent or written law. The absurdity, however, of bringing the Governor's instructions forward as an argument at all, is palpable. If a colony were bound by these emanations of the Colonial Office, we might bid farewell at once to all liberty of action, and instead of living under the constitutional precedent or law of England, we should merely exist at the whim or caprice of the Secretary for the Colonies. These sage Councilors cannot see that where there is representative government the representative body has rights which neither the Governor nor the Minister in Downing street can ignore; and certainly one of the most important of those rights is that which secures to the Legislature protection against a summary or sudden convening of this branch of the Government.

In the newly-appointed Attorney-General's remarks we had crudities that were positively startling. At one time we had the amusing supposition put forward that we were under the laws of Canada—and that the Canadian Governor had similar instructions to His Excellency Governor Kennedy in reference to calling Parliament—that is, he could at any time convene the body, provided sufficient notice were given. Now, we do not doubt the latter circumstance, and it confirms what we have already said; for if the Attorney General had only taken the trouble, before giving out-branded opinions, to examine into Canadian law or usage, he would have found it on this head the same as that of Great Britain, and that fourteen days' notice was necessary. We have elsewhere alluded to the appalling ignorance of the "honourables" in reference to Canadian matters, but we are perfectly taken aback by the unsophisticated experience of His Excellency's new legal adviser. We are sorry that he should, on the first occasion of Legislative "counsel," have been so entirely unprepared with his case; but knowing that he was in this respect unfitted for taking part in the debate, we are doubly sorry that he had not the provincial philosophy on such occasions before him—that a "close mouth shows a wise head." This was not the only gratuitous *expose* which the Attorney General made. He must needs indulge in invidious comparisons between the miners of Sooke and those in Cariboo, suggesting, what has certainly not been borne out by facts, that the former were a rather lawless set. Mr. Wood, as well as Mr. Watson, is, we believe a man who knows something of his position; but, we must confess that yesterday's debate placed both gentlemen in a rather ridiculous light.

THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED to inform the Government Surveyor having completed the boundaries of the above town, the plans and maps will be ready in a few days, when a limited number of eligible lots will be offered at private sale, on advantageous terms.

It is believed that Thompson's Landing offers superior advantages as a Town Site. Situated at the mouth of Sooke River, it is sheltered from the high winds which frequently blow from the Pacific Ocean; it is connected with the new wharf by a short and direct road, and is the most convenient point of access to the harbor. Steamers and other vessels can, drawing eight feet of water at low tide, and thirteen feet at high tide, discharge freight and passengers at all times at the wharf of the company. In addition to which, the creation of a very substantial new wharf is under contract, and will be soon completed.

A quick-train of animals is now on the spot ready to carry freight daily at low rates direct from Thompson's Landing to the Forks, supplying the different camps on Sooke as well as Leech River. The position of Thompson's Landing as a supply point to the already discovered gold fields, is manifestly unequalled, but in addition to this, no other location is as available as Thompson's Landing to the numerous auriferous creeks and rivers believed to exist east of Sooke Harbor. As a place of business, this town must rapidly attain to considerable importance; and for residences it is the most picturesque spot on the Pacific Coast. It is healthy; the soil is good; it is the central point of a good agricultural country, and there is excellent water sufficient to supply a large population.

Already the town site has a busy, bustling appearance, and it is confidently believed that every description of industry would immediately find profitable employment.

Persons desirous of securing eligible plots for business purposes, will have priority of choice by registering their names with either of the undersigned, or with P. M. Backus or Charles Maczetti, at the office of the company, in Fort Street, near Broad Street.

The highest price is not yet fixed, but it will be made as low as possible, and every inducement will be offered to parties wishing to establish a business at Thompson's Landing.

The Committee of Management of the Thompson's Landing Company confidently predict that purchasers of lots will secure to themselves an early and substantial profit on their investments.

J. J. SOUTHWICK, President.

(Signed,) CHAS. B. YOUNG, Sec'y pro tem.

JOHN J. COCHRANE, LAND AGENT, And Stock and Share Broker.

GOVERNMENT STREET, VICTORIA, V. I.

SOOKE. SOOKE.

A Pack Train Has been placed on the Route from the STEAMBOAT LANDINGS At Sooke to the Leech River Mines! TO LEAVE DAILY.

FREIGHT CARRIED AT THREE CENTS PER TON. Contracts may be made on application to Captain Frazer, on board steamer Galedonia; W. Culverwell, Government street, Victoria; or at the Steamboat Landing, Sooke Harbor.

COAL OIL. COAL OIL! ALSO—7 casks, containing Lamp, Glass and Paper Shades; Plain, Gaudy, Oval and Ribbed Chimneys.

Also—An assortment of Patent Mica and other Chimney, Lamp Wicks, etc., etc., for sale at lowest rates, Wholesale and Retail.

Wallace & Stewart, 21 YATES STREET. 1m

Skidgate Bay Copper Mining Co., Limited. NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL Meeting of the shareholders of the above company will be held in the room used by the Board of Directors, Government street, on Monday evening, the 29th instant, at 8 o'clock, p. m.

Business—To take into consideration the advisability of extending the works at the mine. The appointment of a dividend.

N. J. NEUSTADT, Secretary. Victoria, 7. 1., August 26th, 1864. au26

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE

TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED till Monday, 29th inst., for the execution of works required in the additions and alterations of a dwelling house at Esquimalt Harbor. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of MESSRS. WRIGHT & SAUNDERS, Architects, Cor. Yates and Langley streets. au26

Leech River GOLD MINES.

Mara & Co.,

KENNEDY FLAT, LEECH RIVER, (Above the Forks of Sooke and Leech rivers)

Have on hand a large and well-assorted stock of GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, HARDWARE, STATIONERY, CLOTHING, ETC., ETC., Which will be sold at the Lowest Possible Cash Price. au26

For Sooke!

The splendid side-wheel Steamer

"Enterprise," CAPT. MOUAT.

Will sail from the Hudson Bay Company's Wharf for SOOKE, EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY, AT 8 O'CLOCK, A. M., And return same day, leaving Sooke at 2 o'clock, p. m., till further notice. au26

At Auction,

TO MORROW,

Saturday, August 27,

TO PAY ADVANCES,

AT THEIR SALESROOM,

FORT STREET, NEAR WHARF, At 11 o'clock, A. M.,

2½ casks fine Pale Sherry;

5½ " " Port Wine;

2 hhds Dark Brandy;

2 hhds Pale Brandy;

35 cases Anchor Brand Gin;

10 " Port Wine, ea 3 doz;

25 " Aiken's Ale;

25 " Marzetti's Pale Ale;

25 " Allsop's Ale, bottled by Friend.

—ALSO—

On account of a Sooke Miner,

One roll Carpet;

Several Coats and Vests;

One Watch and Clock; &c., &c.

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GREAT BARGAINS!

—AT—

"THE CHEAP PLACE,"

BROWN & MATTHEWS,

GOVERNMENT STREET, (Between Patrick's Saloon and St. Nicholas Hotel.)

Fifty Suits SCOTCH TWEED,

(Pure wool, worth from \$15 to \$20 per Suit, reduced to \$8 and \$10.

ALSO, A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

Gent's Clothing,

UNDER-GARMENTS,

Boots and Shoes,

AT MODERATE RATES. au24

—ALSO—

Table Cutlery, Corkscrews, B. Steels;

Sheath Knives, Plane Irons;

Chisels and Gouges, Dish Covers;

Cash Boxes, Lanterns;

Sash Tools, Plated-ware;

Looking Glasses, Clocks, Locks;

Padlocks and Hinges.

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Table Cutlery, Corkscrews, B. Steels;

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